

## Morning Telegram.

GRAND RAPIDS, DEC. 4, 1884.

### THE MORNING TELEGRAM,

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GEN. BUTLER must be suffering severely. We judge this from the fact that so little has been said about him for a few days past.

It is said that Gov. Cleveland has already, since election, received as presents about thirty canes, as well as one canine. Mr. Blaine has escaped much.

REV. DR. TALMAGE thinks the surplus in the Treasury should be used in establishing steamship lines to South America. John Roach undoubtedly supports the motion.

THE "three Colonels" are lying low for government "pup," so say the gossips. Perhaps they'll get the postoffice, perhaps they'll get the revenue office, perhaps they'll get the collectorship of some port, but very probably they'll get left.

If there is truth in the reports from Washington that Congress will pay little attention to the tariff this year, that body will do well if it heed President Arthur's recommendation that better provisions be made for counting the electoral vote.

ARE BUZZARD appears to be the governor of Pennsylvania, at least of a part of it. There is something touchingly pathetic in his saying that he is trying so hard to be honest and if he isn't allowed to have his own way he will kill somebody. Abe is very sensitive about his honor.

JUDGE ANDREWS and Judge Rapallo, candidates for Judges of the Court of Appeals in the State of New York, received majorities of nearly one million each at the recent election. The former is a Republican, the latter is a Democrat. Neither had any opponent. Did any man ever before, in this country, receive such a majority?

THE plague districts of Kentucky and Virginia seem to be as far off as Khar-toum, to judge by the difficulty of obtaining accurate information regarding the extent and ravages of the disease. Even the nature of the affliction is disputed and mysterious; but, if one-third that is reported be true, those attacked with the malady need have little fear of the terrors of the cholera.

THE Postmaster-General is clearly of the opinion that the Department should favor a plan for a delivery system which, in certain cases and at increased rates, shall expedite the delivery of letters. The idea is drawn from the service rendered by specially organized companies in some of the larger cities where messenger boys are employed to deliver letters requiring immediate transmission. The suggestion will be met with decided objections, but it is doubtful if the balance of argument is not favorable to the plan.

NOTHING is known to be perfect in France till Victor Hugo has seen and approved it. When the aged poet is much interested, it is said, in a baby carriage, he writes a little letter saying, "I have seen it. The baby carriage is a throne on wheels. France is satisfied. Victor Hugo." When he approves a new political constitution he says, "It is good. France needs it. Let it go forth. V. Hugo." He has seen the Bartholdi statue and set his mark of approval on it. Why now should not New York buy a block on which to set it?

THE election of President and Vice President occurred yesterday. The electoral college system, so-called, illustrates a conspicuous instance in which political hind-sight has proved better than political foresight. It was originally intended and expected that the Electors chosen should not be mere automatons but should have and exercise a sound judgment in the choice of President and Vice President. Now they are allowed merely to write down the names of their party's choice. The plan failed to accomplish the purpose for which it was intended and there seems to be no very good reason for its continuance. The individual rights of the states might be maintained by a simple and less expensive method.

### THE CHICAGO FRAUD.

The action of the Democrats with respect to the State Senatorship in the Sixth District, comprising a portion of the city of Chicago, will tend to discourage those who look for pure government from Democratic success. The fraud attempted was atrocious and glaring. The responsibility rests not alone upon the corrupt judges of the election, but upon ex-Gov. John M. Palmer and other leading Democrats of the State, who gave it their countenance and put forth every effort to consummate it. The prize sought was the control of the Illinois Legislature and the election of a United States Senator. It was fortunate that the attempted fraud could be so easily exposed. The facts are these: The first count of votes in one precinct gave Leman, Re-

publican, a majority. The canvassers returned a majority for Brand, Democrat. The return showed upon its face that it had been changed. A re-count of the votes was ordered. It was made several days later. A large number of Republican tickets were then found with Brand's name printed upon them instead of Leman's. It was then discovered that after the re-count was ordered certain Democrats went to an engraver and had him engrave a cut similar to the one on the Republican tickets. This cut was taken to a printing office. The trick is apparent. A number of tickets with Brand's name on were printed. Regular Republican tickets were stolen from the box and replaced by the spurious ones, which were found when the re-count was made. But a small number were found bearing Leman's name, while several hundred reputable men have come forward and testified that they voted for Leman on election day. The judges have been indicted and will be made to pay the penalty for their crime. Gov. Hamilton gave the certificate of election to Mr. Leman and he will take his seat. The Governor should be commended for his course and those participating in the crime punished to the full limit of the law. The men who shared this crime are among the leaders of the National Democracy, and were the loudest in howling about Republican frauds and making threats of violent interference during the week succeeding the Presidential election. One of them is a prospective member of Cleveland's cabinet. This is the kind of stuff the people are to have in the change they have made to purify and reform our politics. The first step in the reform is the attempted robbery of the Senatorship of one of the most populous and important of our Northern States. Hurrah for reform!

### CURRENT COMMENT.

Chicago Advance: There is power enough in Congress to take Mormonism by the throat and break its neck, but the people are behind Congress and must make this question an issue.

Toledo Commercial Telegram: General Durbin Ward's ignorance concerning the man Cleveland at the Chicago Convention, will probably be equaled after the fourth of March, by Cleveland's ignorance of the man Ward, of Ohio.

New York Tribune: Senator Pendleton's name is mentioned much in connection with the ministry to England, the "hungry and thirsty" legion doubtless deeming it well to get all civil service reformers as far away as possible.

New York Star: Without intruding its advice in this delicate dilemma, the Star begs to assure Gov. Cleveland and its readers generally, that, in its opinion, civil service reform by a Democratic administration means at least 90,000 offices filled by good Democrats.

Philadelphia Times: Mr. Lowell has uniformly manifested such good taste in his present position and has been so little of a partisan at any time during his career that he could not have uttered the foolish speeches put into his mouth by the London newspapers without changing himself from a gentleman into a loud and vulgar buffoon.

Davenport Gazette: Fanny Esler has gone to meet the baldheaded men who paid fancy prices for the orchestra chairs when she was tripping the light fantastic toe in this country forty odd years ago. She humored the joke by remaining a ballet girl until the was retired by extreme old age and rheumatism, and died last Thursday in Vienna at the age of 74.

### A Connecticut Cat Story.

[Norwich Bulletin.]

There were three cats in a Williams street family, and the lady of the house concluded that one was sufficient to do all the business, and an edict of death was passed on the old cat and her kitten. The question of the manner of death was settled and the chloroform purchased. Days passed after the chloroform was in the house before the executioner could muster courage to execute the sentence. To facilitate matters the lady thought that some laudanum added to the cat's milk would produce a stupor that would make the chloroform more easy. The drug was put in the milk and tendered the old cat. She tasted the food, cast her eyes suspiciously around her, and refused to eat. The kitten rushed to the dish to partake of the milk and was violently knocked away by the old cat, who took a corner of a mat and covered over the dish to hide it from the kitten and prevent her from taking the "medicine." The lady could not believe it possible that the act was intentional on the part of the cat, and uncovered the dish and again tendered the dish to her. She again knocked the kitten from the dish and covered it over more carefully than before. This repetition of the protective act gained the good-will of the lady, and she gave up killing the cats. She can not satisfy her mind, however, whether the action of the cat was prompted by instinct or reason.

Brave Dr. Rabbeth.  
[St. James' Gazette.]

Does any one ever hear of a medical man who lacks courage? There is a sad story in the newspapers to-day of a doctor's gallantry and devotion. A child at the Gray's Inn Road Free Hospital was suffering from diphtheria, and the operation of pharyngotomy was performed. In order to remove the matter that had accumulated in the child's throat it became necessary to suck it through a tube, and this was done by the senior medical officer, Dr. Samuel Rabbeth. The Doctor, however, caught the disease, and, we regret to say, died last night a victim of a noble and courageous sense of duty. Such acts are fortunately not rare in our hospital wards and infirmaries; but they assuredly deserve some recognition when they are recorded. Most men—most Englishmen, at any rate—we suppose are not deficient in a certain kind of physical bravery; but the bravery required to charge a battery of machine guns, or even, what Napoleon called "the two o'clock in the morning courage," which he claimed and which his enemies denied him, might fall before such an ordeal as that incurred by the young medical officer, Dr. Rabbeth, it appears, was only in his twenty-eighth year.

### WILD JOHNS HONEYCUTT.

How He Stuffed the Constable by Quoting Fictitious Law.  
[Selma (Ala.) Times.]

A few years ago there came to Randolph two Canadian Indians, a father and daughter, who fought the battle for bread by making beaded baskets, pin-cushions, etc. They remained about town a day or two undisturbed, but finally the magistrate, who considered his position a very exalted one, concluded that the strangers should pay a license and in a small way fatten the exchequer of Randolph. He accordingly approached the bead venders and demanded a license of the old Indian, whose only response was to draw from his coat-pocket a passport from his own Government. At this the old magistrate grew wrath, called his Constable, familiarly known from his gigantic frame and superabundance of flesh as "Big Joe" Latham, and ordered him to arrest both Indians, father and daughter.

The order was obeyed promptly, but just at this point of the proceedings John Honeycutt appeared on the scene, and the following conversation ensued:

"Look'er here, Big Joe Latham, what's yer goin' to do with these Injuns?"

"I have arrested 'em, sir, because they haint paid no license for manufacturing beads, and unless they rake up the spones they will have ter go to jail, and they will."

"Big Joe" held the Indians' passport, which John demanded, and after glancing at it, he replied:

"'Big Joe,' you're a durn big fool; these is citizens of the English republic, and the fast thing you know, durn your fool skin, Queen Victory will send her Sheriff out here, take you over the water and hang you until you're deader nor a herring. Now you just hands off; I'll take charge of the critters, and if you mean to keep a whole hide, don't yer touch 'em."

The big officer knew his man and yielded with a little exhibition of reluctance. John led the "Injuns" to the little hotel kept by his mother, left them safe within, and then took a double-barreled gun and seated himself in front of the door. John loved corn juice, and when well soaked held the ribbons over the town, so to speak; but finally "Big Joe" mustered courage and approached him.

"John Honeycutt," said the big constable, "I see a officer uv the law, and I demand them prisoners, an' ef yer don't give them up I'll git er bill uv indictment against yer, and then we'll see whose'er bossin' this town."

"Big Joe Latham you are the durned biggest fool in twenty States. Just wait er little and let me read you the law." John looked around and found an old weather-worn code of Alabama, opened the lids and quoted aloud from his own fertile imagination:

"Be it ordained that henceforth, now and forever, every citizen of the English republic who may or shall come to this country must be allowed to make bead baskets, etc., and any officer or anybody else who pesters them shall be convicted and sent to the Penitentiary forevermore."

As "Big Joe" couldn't read and was not thoroughly posted in statutory law, he did not discover the fraud, but quietly remarked: "It looks a little strange," and surrendered the fort.

John stood guard at the door of the hotel until a freight train rolled up and stopped at the depot. Then he hurried the "Injuns" to the train, opened an empty box-car, forced his prisoners to get in, and then closed the doors. The train rumbled away and the bead-venders have never been seen from that day to this. But everybody around Randolph and for miles along the railroad remembers how John Honeycutt played a bluff game on "Big Joe" Latham by quoting fictitious law and telling him what Queen "Victory" would do. John rescued the Indians, his bread came back from the waters, his friends have rescued him, and to-day he is as free as the wildest redskin in the "Great West."

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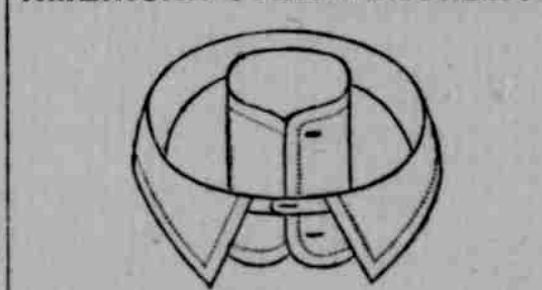
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